

Liman at 20: Public Interest(s)
Launching the Arthur Liman Center for Public Interest Law

Yale Law School
127 Wall Street, New Haven, Connecticut

Thursday, April 6, 2017

4:10 p.m. *Welcome by Dean Robert Post* Yale Law School Levinson Auditorium

Glimpsing Generations of “Limans” at Work

Alison Hirschel, Liman Fellow 1997-1998

Director, Michigan Elder Justice Initiative, Lansing, Michigan

Jessica Sager, Liman Fellow 1999-2000

Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, All Our Kin

New Haven, Connecticut

Jamelia Morgan, Liman Fellow 2015-2017

ACLU National Prison Project, Washington, D.C.

Forrest Dunbar, Liman Fellow 2012-2013

Member of the Anchorage Assembly, Alaska

Working for the Public Interest(s)

A conversation with the Honorable Sonia Sotomayor,
Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court,
and Judith Resnik, Arthur Liman Professor of Law

6:45 p.m. Dinner Yale Law School Ruttenberg Dining Room

Celebrating 20 Years of Liman and Launching the Coming Decades

The Honorable Guido Calabresi

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit,

Former Dean, Sterling Professor Emeritus of Law, YLS

Anthony Kronman,

Former Dean, Sterling Professor of Law, YLS

The Liman Family:

Ellen Liman and her sons, Lewis Liman and Doug Liman

Heather Gerken,

Incoming Dean, J. Skelly Wright Professor of Law, YLS

Friday, April 7, 2017

8:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. ***Resilience and Sustainability***

The Liman Program is now twenty years old, and many Liman Fellows have become long-term members of the public interest bar. Given the mix of wins and losses, public interest lawyering can be invigorating and discouraging, with uneven progress and setbacks. Caseloads are heavy, and underfunding chronic. Given the recent shift in the federal government, the needs are all the greater. Our questions include: How do you sustain yourselves, individually and collectively? How do organizations and coalitions endure in the face of these challenges? What keeps you going? Where are the alliances unexpected? What are the joys? How do you cope with the sorrows?

Hope Metcalf, Liman Program Director, 2010-2014

Executive Director, Schell Center for International Human Rights Law, YLS

The Honorable Marjorie Allard, Liman Fellow 2000-2001

Alaska Court of Appeals

Jorge Barón, Liman Fellow 2005-2006

Executive Director, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Seattle, Washington

Raquiba Huq, Liman Fellow 2007-2008

Supervising Attorney, Legal Services of New Jersey

Ryan Sakoda, Liman Fellow 2015-2017

Committee for Public Counsel Services, Boston, Massachusetts

Doug Stevick, Liman Fellow 1998-1999

General Counsel for Labor and Employment

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, St. Louis, Missouri

10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. ***The Academy and Public Interest***

Several Liman Fellows and former Directors teach law, both clinically and non-clinically, and have become innovative academics. This discussion explores the role of law schools in supporting and expanding public service, with the Liman Program as one example. The challenges include straddling roles within and outside of the academy. Our questions include: What drew you to the academy? How do you see its relationship to your public interest work? How do you decide what you focus on and why? What is your scholarly agenda? What pulls you away from or towards law school traditional formats? How are you changing legal education?

Anna VanCleave, Director of the Liman Program

Johanna Kalb, Liman Program Director, 2014-2016

Associate Professor, College of Law, Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana

Monica Bell, Liman Fellow 2010-2011

Climenko Fellow and Lecturer in Law, Harvard Law School

PhD Candidate, Sociology & Social Policy,

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Fiona Doherty, Senior Liman Fellow in Residence 2011-2012

Clinical Associate Professor, Yale Law School

Susan Hazeldean, Liman Fellow 2001-2002

Assistant Professor of Law, Brooklyn Law School, New York
Marisol Orihuela, Liman Fellow 2008-2009
Visiting Clinical Associate Professor of Law, YLS
Larry Schwartzol, Liman Fellow 2006-2007
Executive Director, Criminal Justice Policy Program,
Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts

11:45 a.m. to 12: 45 p.m. Lunch and discussion groups YLS Ruttenberg Dining Hall

1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. ***Entrepreneurial Public Interest***

Public interest work requires inventiveness, whether in legal strategies, organizing activities, or policy work. Sometimes renovation of existing institutions is the goal, and at other times, reinvention is required. The Liman Program is one example of an entrepreneurial project, and it has also seeded others. This panel reflects on the launching of new organizations, the reconfiguration of others, and how and when to change fields or make changes within a field of practice. Our questions include: What is entrepreneurial public interest lawyering? Do you think of yourself as “entrepreneurial” or do you prefer another term? Why did you start a new organization? Begin a new project? Change your way of working? Where do you get support in your efforts?

Sarah Russell, Liman Program Director, 2007-2010
Professor of Law, Quinnipiac University School of Law
Kristen Jackson, Liman Fellow 2003-2004
Senior Staff Attorney, Public Counsel, Los Angeles
Lecturer in Law, UCLA School of Law, California
McGregor Smyth, Liman Fellow 2003-2004
Executive Director, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest
Adrien Weibgen, Liman Fellow 2014-2016
Staff Attorney, Community Development Project,
Urban Justice Center, New York

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ***In and Out of Government***

Sometimes, government lawyers are innovative public interest advocates, and other times they are called on to defend institutions and laws that are the targets of reform. By bringing together Fellows who have worked within and outside of various governmental bodies, we focus on their understanding of the contributions to be made from within. Our questions include: What prompted you to join the government (at local or national levels), and in what roles did you think you were the most generative? What were the obstacles to making the policies or taking the positions you supported? What are effective methods of disagreeing with and challenging government practices?

Harold Koh, Former Dean, Sterling Professor of International Law, YLS
Josh Civin, Liman Fellow 2004-2005
General Counsel, Montgomery County Public Schools, MD
Serena Hoy, Liman Fellow 2001-2002
Former Senior Counselor to the Secretary,
Department of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C.
Tom Jawetz, Liman Fellow 2004-2005
Vice President of Immigration Policy,
Center for American Progress, Washington, D.C.
Marc Silverman, Liman Fellow 2006-2007
Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut
Holly Thomas, Liman Fellow 2005-2006
Deputy Director of Executive Programs,
California Department of Fair Employment and Housing

3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The Legacies of Attica: Moving Criminal Justice

In 1971, Arthur Liman wrote that the criminal justice system was “at least as great a part of the problem of Attica as the correctional facility itself. The process of criminal justice will never fulfill either its promises or its obligations until the entire judicial system is purged of racism and is restructured to eliminate the strained and dishonest scenes now played out daily in our courtrooms. . . .” Forty-five years later, in her award-winning history of the Attica uprising, Heather Thompson explained that “The Attica prison uprising of 1971 shows the nation that even the most marginalized citizens will never stop fighting to be treated as human beings. . . . This is Attica’s legacy.”

This session looks at the criminal justice system from policing, prosecution, and defense, to incarceration and considers the array of individuals involved, from youth to old age. Our questions include: What has and has not changed in the decades since the Attica Report was published? How do we move forward once again? Where are the places on which to focus efforts and what shape should contemporary reforms take?

Judith Resnik, Arthur Liman Professor of Law, YLS
Sonia Kumar, Liman Fellow 2009-2011
Staff Attorney, ACLU of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland
Devon Porter, Liman Fellow 2016-2017
ACLU of Southern California, Los Angeles, California
Megan Quattlebaum, Liman Fellow 2010-2011
Senior Liman Fellow in Residence, 2013-2014
Supervising Attorney, and Program Director, The Justice Collaboratory, YLS
Dwayne Betts, Liman Fellow 2016-2017
Office of the Public Defender, New Haven, Connecticut
Margot Mendelson, Liman Fellow 2009-2010
Staff Attorney, Prison Law Office, Berkeley, California